



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DIVISION, GREAT LAKES AND OHIO RIVER
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 1159
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45201-1159

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CELRD-PDS-P

8 February 2008

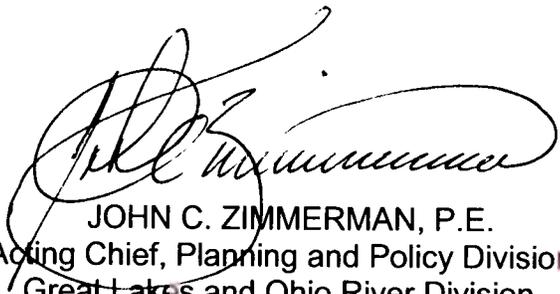
MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Chicago District

SUBJECT: Major Subordinate Command (MSC) Approval of the Peer Review Plan for Upper Des Plaines River and Tributaries, Phase II, Illinois and Wisconsin Multipurpose Feasibility Study

1. The Peer Review Plan for the Upper Des Plaines River and Tributaries, Phase II, Illinois and Wisconsin Multipurpose Feasibility Study (attachment 1) has been presented to the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division for approval in accordance with memorandum from Major General Don T. Riley, Director of Civil Works, and subject titled "Peer Review Process" dated 30 March 2007.
2. The Upper Des Plaines River and Tributaries, Phase II, Illinois and Wisconsin Multipurpose Feasibility Study is a multipurpose study that evaluates flood risk management (mainstem and tributary damages and environmental restoration opportunities within the basin. A secondary purpose of the study will include determining the feasibility of improvements in the interests of water quality, recreation and related purposes. The study will consider sites located within tributary watersheds and along the main stem for both Flood Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration potential.
3. The purpose of a peer review plan is to assign the appropriate level and review independence, establish the procedures, and assign responsibilities for conducting the Independent Technical Review (ITR) and External Peer Review (EPR). This peer review plan is compliant with the requirements of the Corps Peer Review Process, which is documented in EC1105-2-408, dated 31 May 2005, and has been recommended by the National Planning Center of Expertise for Flood Damage Reduction (FDR-PCX) and the National Ecosystem Planning Center of Expertise (ECO-PCX) (attachment 2).
4. Policy compliance and quality management verification for the Upper Des Plaines River and Tributaries, Phase II, Illinois and Wisconsin Multipurpose Feasibility Study Peer Review Plan have been completed. Division staff has confirmed the Peer Review Plan has been formulated in accordance with current policy and concurs with the recommendations provided by the FDR-PCX and ECO-PCX for an integrated review process including independent technical review (ITR) because the study is not likely to develop new processes that will change prevailing practices, utilize precedent setting methods or models, present complex challenges for

interpretation, or result in controversial recommendations. The need for an external peer review will be revisited prior to the completion of the feasibility study to determine whether or not study process, recommendations, or estimated project implementation costs would indicate the need for an external peer review.

5. The District is requested to post the Peer Review Plan to its web site and provide a link to the FDR-PCX and ECO-PCX for their use. Prior to posting, the District should ensure the names of individuals in the PRP are removed.
6. The Peer Review Plan for the Upper Des Plaines River and Tributaries, Phase II, Illinois and Wisconsin Multipurpose Feasibility Study is approved by the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, Chief of Planning and Policy Division. Point of Contact for this effort is Dr. Hank Jarboe (513) 684-6050 (CELRD-PDS-P).



JOHN C. ZIMMERMAN, P.E.
Acting Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Great Lakes and Ohio River Division

cf: CECW-LRD (Lang)
CELRD-RB (Dale)
CELRD-PD (White)
CELRD-PDS-GL (Miller)